

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Applicant, by this paper, amends claims 1, 3, 7-8, and adds new claims 9-12. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Discussion of Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on August 24, 2005 with a Certificate of Mailing. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner initial and return an initialed copy of form PTO/SB/08A to indicate consideration of the references.

Applicant notes that the USPTO PAIR system fails to show receipt of the IDS submission. Applicant encloses with this paper a duplicate copy of the IDS submission and a copy of the return postcard having the PTO stamp indicating a date of receipt on August 26, 2005. Applicant believes the PTO stamp on the return postcard is evidence of the prior correspondence.

Discussion of Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). In particular, the Examiner alleges that Applicant's description of the power supply device of Figure 11 describes every claimed feature. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites a power supply device that comprises: "*an operation control section which actuates said charging section, determines whether a state of said load (L) to which said direct-current voltage generation section applies the second direct-current voltage is a lightly loaded state or not, and in a case where determining that said load (L) enters a lightly loaded state, controls said charging section to stop operation of charging said charging element when a preset time period elapses after it determines that said load (L) enters the lightly loaded state.*" Claim 1, (*emphasis added*). Applicant's description of Figure 11 fails to describe the claimed feature.

Applicant's description associated with Figure 11 states that "a switching power supply device mounted with a conventional power factor improvement circuit includes a device for stopping the operation of the power factor improvement circuit based on the state of the load (see, for example, Unexamined Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. H8-111975)." *Applicant's Specification*, at page 3, ll. 18-21. Applicant's Specification goes on to state: "since a conventional switching power supply device has its power factor improvement circuit stop operating when the load 16 is light, it can realize low power consumption." *Id.*, at ll. 22-24.

The Examiner alleges that the description of the operation control section (14 and 15) describes the claimed feature. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's description of Figure 11 fails to include any description of an operation control section that determines a lightly loaded state and stops operation of charging a charging element *when a preset time period elapses after* it determines that the load enters the lightly loaded state. Applicant's description of Figure 11 fails to include any description of a preset time period and fails to describe the operation control section controlling operation of charging a charging element in relation to a predetermined time period. Applicant's description of Figure 11 fails to describe any predetermined time period that elapses, and control when the predetermined time period elapses.

Thus, claim 1 is believed to be allowable at least for the reason that Applicant's description of Figure 11 fails to describe any predetermined time period and fails to describe an operation control section that stops operation of charging a charging element *when a preset time period elapses*. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 1.

Claim 8 includes feature similar to the feature discussed above in relation to claim 1. In particular, claim 8 includes "controlling said charging section (20, 50) to stop operation. *when the preset time period elapses* after it is determined that said load enters a lightly loaded state." Claim 8, (*emphasis added*). Thus, claim 8 is believed to be allowable at least for the reasons presented above in relation to claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 8.

Claims 2 and 6 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable at least for the reason that they depend from an allowable base claim. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 2 and 6.

Discussion of Objections to Claims

The Examiner objects to claims 3-5 and 7 as dependent upon a rejected base claim but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 3 is amended to include the features of independent claim 1. Thus, claim 3 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 4-5 depend from claim 3 and are believed to be allowable at least for the reason that they depend from an allowable base claim.

Claim 7 is amended to include the features of independent claim 1. Thus, claim 7 is believed to be allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the claims and allowance of claims 3-5 and 7.

Discussion of New Claims

Claims 9-12 were added by this paper. Support for the claims can be found throughout Applicants Specification.

In particular, the features of claims 9-10 are described, for example, in the Specification at page 13, ll. 19-27. Similarly, support for claims 11 and 12 can be found at Figures 1 and 6 and the associated descriptions.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of new claims 9-12.

CONCLUSION

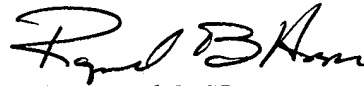
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/538,440
Amdt. dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 25, 2006

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858-350-6100.

Respectfully submitted,



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